

2006 CTE Week Launched During Proclamation Ceremony



Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO) officers braved the snow and ice to attend a proclamation ceremony, in the Capitol Rotunda, to celebrate Career and Technical Education Week on Monday, February 13. Governor Ernie Fletcher's Chief of Staff Stan Cave (center right), Department for Workforce Investment Commissioner Laura Owens (center left) and Office of Career and Technical Education's new Executive Director David Billingsley (far left) were on hand to officially kick off the week and meet with students.

Career and Technical Education Week in Kentucky was officially launched during a special proclamation ceremony in the Capitol Rotunda on Monday, February 13, 2006. The Kentucky Association of Career and Technical Education (KACTE) coordinated this year's event with student organization leaders in the Education Cabinet's Office of Career and Technical Education (OCTE) and Kentucky Department of Education's Division of Secondary Career and Technical Education.

Department for Workforce Investment Commissioner Laura E. Owens was introduced by KACTE Executive Director Mike Stone during opening remarks. Owens talked about the importance of career and technical education and how it creates a pathway for achievement by bringing relevance to academics. She also emphasized the role career and technical education plays in educating the workforce through strong, community-driven programs.

Introduced by Owens, Chief of Staff Stan Cave attended the ceremony for Governor Ernie Fletcher because of an unexpected health complication.

In conjunction with National Career and Technical Education Week, this year's theme is "Career Tech - Education for Success." OCTE personnel involved in working with activities throughout this week include Division Director John Marks; Dale Winkler, business and marketing academic consultant; Elizabeth Bullock, health and human services consultant and KY State HOSA director; and KY Skills USA State Director Steve Phillippi.

"Career and Technical Education Week is important because it brings recognition to the relevance of skills training that prepares students for successful careers in the 21st century," says OCTE Executive Director David Billingsley. "In Kentucky, we are proud to highlight business and industry relationships and the outstanding academic and technical education achievements of our students."

